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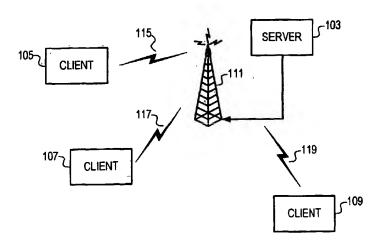
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(54) Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS TO SEND FEEDBACK FROM CLIENTS TO A SERVER IN A CONTENT DISTRI-BUTION BROADCAST SYSTEM



(57) Abstract: Methods and apparatuses providing feedback to a server from a client in a content distribution broadcast system. In one aspect, feedback is sent from a client to a server in response to a trigger. In another aspect, feedback is sent after a predetermined amount of time has lapsed. In yet another aspect, feedback is sent after a rankings or ratings have been generated for a predetermined number of pieces of content. In still another aspect, feedback is sent after a predetermined amount of content has been consumed. In yet another aspect, feedback is sent when the amount of unconsumed content is less than a predetermined threshold amount.



Infectional Application No PCT/US 02/17381

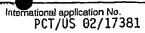
A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER TPC 7 H04L12/18 H04H9/00 H04N7/173 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC **B. FIELDS SEARCHED** Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) HO4H HO4N Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used) EPO-Internal, WPI Data C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages Relevant to claim No. 1,2,4,5, 23,24, US 6 160 989 A (BONNER ALFRED E ET AL) χ 12 December 2000 (2000-12-12) 26,27, 45,46, 48,49, 64-67, 71,73 3,25,47, 72 column 3, line 40 - column 4, line 59 γ column 8, line 49 - column 9, line 33 column 27, line 16 - column 28, line 57 Patent family members are listed in annex. Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. Special categories of cited documents: "T' later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the "A" ducument defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance "E" earlier document but published on or after the international "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed Invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art. document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed "&" document member of the same patent family Date of the actual completion of the international search Date of mailing of the international search report 20 June 2003 2 0. 10. 2003 Name and mailing address of the ISA Authorized officer European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Fel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo ni, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3018 Van Hoorick, J.

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PCT/US 02/17381

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<u></u>	ation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT	Inst :-	standalan bi
Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevar	t to claim No.
γ	GUMMALLA A C V ET AL: "An access protocol for a wireless home network" WIRELESS COMMUNICATIONS AND NETWORKING CONFERENCE, 1999. WCNC. 1999 IEEE NEW ORLEANS, LA, USA 21-24 SEPT. 1999, PISCATAWAY, NJ, USA, IEEE, US, 21 September 1999 (1999-09-21), pages 1392-1396, XP010353704 ISBN: 0-7803-5668-3 page 1392, right-hand column, lines 15-41 page 1394, right-hand column, lines 1-17		3,25,47, 72
A	WO 01 15449 A (SINGULARIS S A ;VAMPARYS FRANCK (CH)) 1 March 2001 (2001-03-01)  page 5, line 5 - page 6, line 9 page 11, line 3 - page 15, line 18		1-5, 23-27, 45-49, 54-67, 71-73
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Box I	Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 1 of first sheet)
This Inte	emational Search Report has not been established in respect obcertain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:
1.	Claims Nos.: because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
2.	Claims Nos.: because they relate to parts of the International Application thitstide not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful international Search can be to a rised out, specifically:
з. 🗌	Claims Nos.: because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).
Box II	Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Countinuation of item 2 of first sheet)
This Inte	emational Searching Authority found multiple inventions in thiis inflernational application, as follows: see additional sheet
1.	As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the repplicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.
2.	As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3.	As only some of the required additional search fees were timed to paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifica In chaims Nos.:
4. X	No required additional search fees were timely paid by the appollicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is convered by claims Nos.: $1-5,23-27,45-49,64-67,71-73$
Remark	on Protest  The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.  No protest additional search fees.
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### FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

This International Searching Authority found multiple (groups of) inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. claims: 1-5 23-27 45-49 64-67 71-73

Method, apparatus and system for receiving content descriptors and a trigger signal from a server, and for sending feedback in response to said trigger signal.

2. claims: 6-9 28-31 50-52 68-70 74-76

Method, apparatus and system for receiving content descriptors from a server and for sending feedback after fixed time intervals.

3. claims: 10-15 32-37 53-56 77-79

Method, apparatus and system for receiving content descriptors from a server and for generating demand data after which feedback is sent to the server

4. claims: 16-22 38-44 57-63 80-85

Method, apparatus and system for receiving content descriptors and content from a server, for storing said content and for sending feedback after an amount of the stored content is consumed.

Information on patent family members

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